

other convenient optical scanning element. If the scanning element comprises a polygon, each facet of the polygon may have a different curvature. In that case, the mirror portions 416, 418, 420 may (but need not) all have the same profile since the multiple working distances may then be determined by the curvature of the polygon facets. An exemplary polygon suitable for use with three planar fold mirror portions is shown at 436.

D2
Concl'd.
Further shaping of the beam may be achieved by the use of optics 438 in front of the laser 410.

In the embodiment of Fig. 13, light reflected back from the indicia 426 may either follow substantially the same path, in the reverse direction, to a photodetector (not shown) or alternatively there may be separate light collector optics (not shown) for that purpose. --

IN THE DRAWINGS:

Please add Fig. 13, as shown on the attached sheet.

REMARKS

As originally stated, this application is a continuation-in-part of abandoned U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/405,585, filed March 17, 1995. By preliminary amendment dated June 9, 1999, filed simultaneously with the application, the reference to related applications was updated to recite that this case is a division of U.S. Patent

Application Serial No. 09/009,231, filed January 20, 1998 which, in turn, is a continuation-in-part of abandoned U.S. Application Serial No. 08/405,585.

Enclosed herewith is a copy of U.S. Patent No. 5,859,417 which, as the Examiner will note, is a continuation of abandoned U.S. Application Serial No. 08/405,585. In other words, the specification of U.S. Patent No. 5,859,417 is *identical* to the specification of abandoned U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/405,585.

By this third preliminary amendment, applicants wish to incorporate selected language from grandparent case, U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/405,585, into the instant application. For ease of reference, that selected language has been highlighted in yellow in the enclosed copy of U.S. Patent No. 5,859,417 (since U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/405,585 is an abandoned file). The selected language is found in U.S. Patent No. 5,859,417 at:

- a) Col. 4, lines 12-33;
- b) Col. 5, line 25 through Col. 6, line 23; and
- c) Col. 10, lines 4-9.

In order to cleanly incorporate this selected language without using numerals that duplicate numerals already in use in the instant case, all the numerals used in the text portion of Col. 5, line 25 through Col. 6, line 23 have been increased by the number 400. Also, the reference to "FIG. 1" has been changed to -- FIG. 13 --.

Applicants respectfully request entry of the above amendments to the specification and the new Fig. 13 which, as shown in the enclosed marked-in-red drawing, is identical to Fig. 1 of U.S. Patent No. 5,859,417 (except for the numerals).

Wherefore, a favorable action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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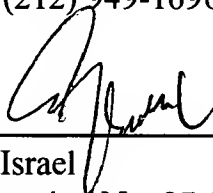
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